

Democratic Republic of the Congo

1 - 31 October 2018

1. Among the Congolese citizens expelled from Angola in October, UNHCR identified **2,373 Congolese citizens holding refugee documents** from Angola.
2. DRC authorities reported **crossings of an estimated 600 Central Africans** into DRC; mainly women and children fleeing renewed violence in the Central African Republic.
3. UNHCR documented **11,528 South Sudanese refugees in border areas** in Dungeni Territory. 93% expressed the wish to relocate away from the border.

Refugees

Burundian refugees

Total in DRC

42,308

As of 31 October 2018

- While verifying the numbers of Burundian refugees residing with host families in South Kivu, UNHCR observed a **reduction by 4,715 cases, while 4,844 were registered as still living there**, as of 31 October. The reduction can be attributed to several reasons, including instances where people have moved – which may include spontaneous returns – as well as deaths. This ongoing verification and registration operation allows UNHCR to update numbers and to issue identification documents, to ensure refugees can move freely in DRC.
- **The funding gap for the Burundian situation in DRC persists**, depleting essential medication stocks in Lusenda camp and Mulongwe settlement, which leads to more frequent referrals to secondary health structures and a reduction in the quality of care.
- In Mulongwe settlement, **the quantity of water available for refugees was increased to 20L/day/person**, thanks to the connection of three new water sources to the site by the local NGO AFPDE. Additionally, 105 latrines and 90 showers were built, bringing the total to 808 latrines and 747 showers operational on the site.
- After receiving agricultural support from UNHCR's partner ADRA, refugees in Lusenda camp and Mulongwe settlement were able to sell **210kg of tomatoes and 250kg of cabbage** that they had produced. 210 young refugees also received diplomas after completing vocational trainings in soap-making, sewing, hairdressing and baking.
- **15 survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in Mulongwe settlement and Lusenda camp received resources to start income-generating activities**. These included goats, fabrics and other articles.
- UNHCR's partner ActionAid provided **19 teaching kits to teachers in 2 partner schools attended by refugees**. These included pens, coloring crayons, notebooks, calculators, rulers and bags, as well as chalk and paper.
- As part of efforts to **prevent sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)**, 3 workshops were organized in Lusenda camp and Mulongwe settlement for 240 refugees and 17 partner staff. Trainers explained how to use complaint boxes, the hotline number and how to denounce abuse. **7 sensitization sessions on child marriage and SGBV** were also held targeting 523 refugees.

Central African refugees

Total in DRC

170,430

As of 31 October 2018

- Authorities reported **crossings of Central Africans into Nord-Ubangi Province** near Nzakara village from 18 October onwards. Authorities estimated that around 600 people arrived; mainly women and children fleeing renewed ethnic violence in the Central African Republic. UNHCR and CNR were preparing an assessment mission.
- For the first time, UNHCR **biometrically registered Central African refugees living in over 50 out-of-camp locations** around Bili camp, Nord-Ubangi Province. They had been living there since 2015, but had not been registered due to budgetary and logistical constraints. A total of **10,901** were registered at the end of the operation, which lasted from 26 September to 19 October.



Arrivals of tractors that are transporting NFIs to Monga and other localities. © UNHCR

- In parallel, UNHCR physically **verified the presence and situation of Central African refugees living in camps**. A total of **57,329** were physically verified in Inke, Bili, Mole and Boyabu camps; a decrease compared to the previous total of 62,517. The operation was also an opportunity to **distribute 18,138 individual identity cards** to refugees aged 12 and above, which allow them to move freely in the DRC and access banking services. More are still being printed.



Boys at the inauguration of their school, built by UNHCR in Libenge, Sud-Ubangi Province.
© UNHCR/A. Stenbock-Fermor

- UNHCR transported **non-food items (NFIs) to remote refugee-hosting areas of Bas-Uele**, despite extremely bad road conditions. Each return trip from the warehouse in the town of Bondo takes 10 days and 5 tractors are to transport almost 90 tons of NFIs. UNHCR's partner Terre Sans Frontières (TSF) began with the distribution, handing out **70% of the items to 17,000 registered refugees in the area, while 30% is going to the host community**. This is only a fraction of the 29,000 registered refugees in the area who could not all be targeted due to insufficient quantities.

- UNHCR's partner TSF **trained 240 people (195 refugees and 45 locals) on income-generating activities**, namely sewing, fishing, breeding livestock, baking, and

more, in 5 locations in Bas-Uele Province. However, beneficiaries need materials for their income-generating activities, but TSF could not provide these yet due to budget constraints.

- In collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), **UNHCR resettled an extremely vulnerable Central African refugee family to Norway**. This was the second Central African refugee family to be resettled from the DRC this year.

- UNHCR's Regional Representative **inaugurated a 6-classroom elementary school** in Libenge town, Sud-Ubangi Province, built with UNHCR funding. The school hosts 875 Congolese students and 72 Central African refugees, with the aim of promoting local integration and peaceful coexistence.

Rwandan refugees

| Total in DRC (figure based on a pre-registration done by the DRC government) | Repatriated this month (figure pending verification) | Repatriated in 2018 (figure pending verification) |
|--|---|--|
| 217,670 | 215 | 2,780 |

As of 31 October 2018

- **215 Rwandan refugees were repatriated** in October, bringing the total to 2,780 for 2018. Figures are pending verification on the Rwandan side.
- As of 31 October, **a total of 70,303 Rwandan refugees were biometrically registered and given refugee certificates in North and South Kivu Provinces**, through two registration phases; one in 2015-16, and one ongoing since June. 40,439 were registered in the recent phase. A parallel physical verification, started in March with the aim of updating the number of Rwandan refugees still present in eastern DRC, has so far **confirmed the presence of 78,048 in North and South Kivu Provinces**. Both operations are ongoing.

South Sudanese refugees

| Total in DRC |
|---------------|
| 95,181 |

As of 31 October 2018

- UNHCR and partners CNR, ADES and ADSSE carried out a mission to verify the numbers and situation of refugees in border areas in Dungu Territory, Haut-Uélé Province. Out of an expected 12,500, **11,528 refugees (3,293 households) were documented** on tablets through KoBo Collect. The Kobo Collect application helps gather identity and protection data while in remote areas. The data is then used to conduct registration. **93% of the refugees expressed the wish to relocate away from the border.**
- UNHCR's new **"sports for protection" project**, funded by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), kicked off at Meri and Biringi settlements; sports coaches were hired among refugees, sports teams were formed, and the first activities (dance and football) took place. Currently, some basic sports activities do take place, but there is a lack of sports equipment and sports fields are in bad condition. Sports contribute to refugees' physical and mental health, keep them out of inactivity and help overcome trauma.

- According to UNHCR's new report, "[Highlighted Underfunded Situations in 2018](#)¹" 62% of South Sudanese refugees are children (63% in DRC). Child protection is among the priorities. It was highlighted that the **major gap in terms of assistance to unaccompanied and/or separated children is** in the DRC, where only 21% of children identified as such received assistance.



A football team and their makeshift ball at Meri settlement, Haut Uele Province. © UNHCR/C. Lopes

- As reported in the DRC chapter of the [Regional Response Plan](#)² for South Sudanese refugees (published on 1 October), **sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) remains severely underreported**, due to fears of stigmatization, and societal attitudes. Targeted activities continue to be organized to sensitize and provide support to all survivors. In October, 6 cases of SGBV were reported, and proper medical and psychological support was provided at Biringi settlement.
- UNHCR's partner COOPI organized **two sensitization movie screenings about SGBV at Biringi**; one about sexual harassment at school, and a second about denials of resources. Both also covered rape reporting mechanisms. A total of 295 refugees and host community members were reached through these sensitizations.



Screening of a sensitisation movie on sexual and gender-based violence.
© UNHCR/K. Sorgho

- As Ebola has hit Ituri Province, UNHCR and its partner ADES conducted **three training sessions on Ebola diagnosis and treatment**, targeting 107 healthcare staff in three health centers in Aru and Aba towns, and at Biringi settlement.

- UNHCR conducted a **capacity-building session on child protection**, namely determining the Best Interest of the Child (BID), for 31 key representatives of local authorities and UNHCR's partners in Aru Territory.

Congolese returnees

- UNHCR and partners **assessed the needs of former Congolese refugees who recently returned from Zambia** to Pweto Territory, Haut-Katanga Province. Needs included shelter, as some return villages had been burned down. The construction of a bridge is required to access some return areas.

¹ http://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/UNHCR%20Brochure%20on%20Underfunded%20Situations%20-%20September%202018.pdf?utm_source=PR_COMMS&utm_medium=email&utm_content=http%3a%2f%2freporting.unhcr.org%2fsites%2fdefault%2ffiles%2fUNHCR%2520Brochure%2520on%2520Underfunded%2520Situations%2520-%2520September%25202018.pdf&utm_campaign=HQ_EN_BriefingNotes_171027

² <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/66080>

- Following the expulsion of Congolese citizens from Angola, **UNHCR and CNR identified 2,373 returned Congolese refugees with documents issued in Angola, among the expelled** in the border town of Kamako (Kasai Province), as of 20 November 2018. Most of them arrived in October. UNHCR was in contact with the authorities on both sides of the border to prevent forced returns and tries to find solutions for those who were returned. A biometric verification was foreseen. Furthermore, UNHCR and partners War Child and CNR are closely monitoring the protection situation by reporting human rights violations, conducting referrals, and pursuing a cash for protection programme.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

On 14 August, UNHCR declared an internal **L2 emergency in Nord-Kivu and Ituri Provinces**. This will allow UNHCR to use emergency procedures and mobilize additional resources in view of the return situation in Ituri Province, and ongoing displacement in Nord-Kivu Province.

Ituri Province

- The situation in Djugu Territory remained volatile. Clashes led to the **displacement of 30,279 people (9,345 households) within the territory**, while **another 3,742 (780 households)** were displaced to Mambasa Territory, having fled violence in Beni Territory (North Kivu Province), according to UNHCR's monitoring partner INTERSOS.
- UNHCR and its partner the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) organized a mission to revisit Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIS) areas of intervention given the deterioration of the security situation in Djugu in late September. **It was decided to focus on three main axes: Tchomia, Drodoro, Fataky**. DRC is already deployed in Ituri and the identification of targeted beneficiaries is ongoing.
- **642 human rights violations** were recorded through UNHCR's protection monitoring in October, a majority being violations of the right to liberty, property, and life and physical integrity. 73 cases of SGBV were identified.
- **101 violations received a response**; 55 referrals and 46 advocacy actions. As a result, 46 SGBV survivors were referred to medical structures, 22 received Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) kits within 72 hours, and 9 received psychosocial support. 23 arbitrarily arrested people were liberated after advocacy by UNHCR's partner INTERSOS.
- UNHCR's partner INTERSOS and local Village Peace Committees organized **6 sensitization sessions** in 6 localities, **on peaceful coexistence between IDPs and the host community** targeting 749 people (478 men and boys, and 360 women and girls).

North-Kivu Province

- **The security situation and protection environment in Beni Territory continued to deteriorate**, as presumed Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) elements raided Muungano and Maendeleo in the Bakaiko district of Oicha town, north of Beni city on October 24th, 2018. 80% of the families in the area reportedly fled towards other areas of Oicha town.
- In 4 IDP sites in Rutshuru territory, **504 households who expressed an intention to return received Voluntary Return Attestations**, as well as a \$50 cash grant.



Making sanitary pads in the recently-finalized production unit in Masisi Territory, North-Kivu Province.
 © UNHCR/N.Micevic

- **1,744 protection incidents**, including human rights violations and SGBV, were recorded by UNHCR's partner INTERSOS in October, with a significant increase noted in Beni Territory. 35 victims of arbitrary arrest were released following advocacy conducted with the authorities.
- UNHCR's partner INTERSOS **trained 67 IDPs and host community members in manufacturing sanitary pads** out of cloth, in an effort to promote feminine hygiene and self-reliance in Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. A production unit was also finalized, and fabrics and sewing machines were purchased for beneficiaries (both men and women) to start their producing and selling.
- As part of **SGBV prevention efforts**, and further to the training of 93 beneficiaries on income-generating activities, UNHCR and INTERSOS assessed beneficiaries' business plans and distributed cash grants in Beni and Rutshuru territories, for them to start their activity.
- The implementation of a **CERF-funded cash-for-shelter project** in Lubero, Masisi and Beni territories is reaching its final stages, with constructions almost finalized.
- In Rutshuru, Kitshanga, Masisi and Lubero territories, **139 members of IDP committees and 50 elements of the army and police were trained** on protection principles, the guiding principles of internal displacement, human rights, and international humanitarian law.

South-Kivu Province



Displaced families who fled nearby villages arrive in Nyalubemba, Shabunda Territory, carrying their belongings. ©UNHCR/C.Veale

- From 8 to 14 October, UNHCR and partners conducted a mission to Fizi Territory after a resurgence of armed conflict. The main **protection concerns included the destruction of property and communal buildings, serious human rights violations, and sexual and gender-based violence.**

- In the first half of October, **cash and in-kind goods were distributed to 2,002 households** in Fizi Territory, as part of a shelter project implemented by UNHCR's partner NRC. On 13 and 14 October, 2,775 households in Fizi Territory, both IDPs and host community members, also received non-food item (NFI) kits.

Kasai region

- In early October, UNHCR and its partner NRC carried out a **large-scale cash distribution to over 17,600 IDPs and returnees** in Luiza Territory (Kasai Central Province), one the areas worst-hit by the 2017 violence. 83% of beneficiaries were women, who received cash assistance of \$100 or \$130 dollars. Families whose shelters were destroyed received additional material and technical support.
- UNHCR held **several capacity-building sessions on protection, including how to manage population movements, and how to identify, address and refer human rights violations.** The sessions took place in Tshikapa, Mbuji-Mayi and Kananga, with over 200 government and parliament officials, security and army staff, judiciary personnel, civil society members, and NGO staff attending.



"I know my husband's habits. This is why I insisted on controlling the money."
 Victorine, 53, was displaced due to violence in Kasai and received \$130 as cash assistance from UNHCR. © UNHCR/R. Ross

Tanganyika / Haut-Katanga Provinces

- **800 new households arrived at the spontaneous IDP site of Kikumbe, and 67 arrived at Kalunga site**, according to UNHCR's partner Save Congo. They fled attacks on 4 villages around Kalemie, Tanganyika

Province, at the end of October. None of them received assistance during the reporting period, except SGBV survivors who received medical and psychosocial care. Human rights violations by the armed groups were reported.

- **520 human rights violations** were documented in October, in 5 territories of Tanganyika Province, through UNHCR's protection monitoring partner Save Congo. 70% were violations of the right to property, and there were 36 cases of SGBV.
- **181 violations received a response**, in the form of 144 advocacy actions and 37 responses to SGBV. 14 victims of arbitrary arrests and forced labor were subsequently liberated, 21 victims of extortion saw their goods restituted, and 35 SGBV survivors were referred to medical structures and given PEP kits. 2 victims of SGBV were referred to legal clinics, and the two perpetrators were arrested.
- In Tanganyika Province, UNHCR's partner Save Congo identified a need to **assess these response mechanisms** so that all human rights violations are addressed, and to **better inform authorities** on human rights and sexual violence laws. Logistical challenges and ongoing fighting also posed challenges to monitoring.
- UNHCR and partner AIDES organized **45 sensitization sessions on SGBV**, which reached 3,456 returned IDPs (1,467 men and boys, and 1,993 women and girls) in 5 areas of return in Tanganyika and Haut-Katanga provinces. This brings the total to 551 such sessions carried out in 2018; 88% of the target for the year.
- On 22 October, UNHCR's partner AIDES organized a **capacity-building workshop for members of the Provincial Committee for Peace, Mediation and Development** in Kalemie, Tanganyika Province, thus completing the target of 3 workshops for 2018. 25 members participated, in addition to 3 members of the humanitarian community. A new roadmap and strategy for the durable resolution of the inter-ethnic conflict was adopted during the workshop.
- **22 sensitization sessions on peaceful coexistence** were organized by UNHCR's partner AIDES, in return villages in 5 territories in Tanganyika and Haut-Katanga provinces targeting 2,539 returnees and host community members (1,091 men and boys, and 1,891 women and girls).
- A radio spot encouraging peaceful coexistence, called "Let's share amongst neighbors," was **broadcasted 144 times on 4 different radio stations** in Tanganyika and Haut-Katanga Provinces. The total audience is estimated at almost 739,000 listeners. **16 radio shows**, called "Together for a peaceful world," were also animated on 3 different radio stations in Tanganyika and Haut-Katanga provinces.

Statelessness

- As part of the #IBelong campaign to end statelessness, a theatre group presented a play in Goma for the occasion of, UN Day **to raise awareness on the consequences of statelessness**.

Clusters and Working Groups

Protection Cluster

- On 30 October, the Protection Cluster shared findings from an [evaluation mission³ to Djugu Territory](#), Ituri Province, following an escalation of violence. An estimated **7,167 households were found displaced** in the localities visited, and **139 protection incidents** were documented, with a vast majority of lootings. The Protection Cluster recommended advocating for the respect of human rights and the protection of civilians by local authorities.
- The Protection Cluster **trained some 30 UN, NGO and government staff on Protection Information Management (PIM)**, enabling them to collect data to inform protection responses. The training was held in Kananga, Kasai Central Province, and others will follow in Mbuji-Mayi and Tshikapa.

Shelter Working Group

- The Shelter Working Group shared its [comparison⁴](#) of the shelter sector's achievements in 2017 and 2018. In DRC, **targeted beneficiaries increased by 400%** - from around 57,400 served in 2017 to 225,800 targeted in 2018. Partners implementing shelter activities also increased from 8 to 10.
- On 17 October, the Shelter Working Group published the [results⁵](#) of a needs assessment carried out in South Kivu and Maniema Provinces, jointly with the WASH Cluster. Highest rates of **shelter needs were found in Fizi, Uvira and Kimbi Lulenge** health zones, which also had the highest numbers of IDPs and returnees. These areas counted most of the 19,000 destroyed and 33,000 damaged shelters found overall.

Cash Working Group

- The National Cash Working Group shared the preliminary results of a 4W mapping of cash-based interventions in the DRC. As of end October, **US\$15.8 million in cash assistance has been delivered, or will be delivered** by humanitarian actors in the DRC by the end of 2018, according to stakeholder self-reporting.
- The National Cash Working Group has begun contributing to global UNHCR-WFP project to **identify and mitigate risks of abuse linked with cash assistance delivered through private sector agents**. As cash is a promising and expanding form of assistance in the DRC, the country was chosen as a first case study for the project, which will also be implemented in 23 other countries by the end of 2019
- The Regional Nord Kivu/Ituri Cash Working group organised two training sessions for its members on Cash Based Interventions Markets Analysis from 16 to 26 October in Goma, facilitated by CaLP (Cash Learning Partnership) with support from DRC National Cash Working Group.

³ UNHCR, OCHA, COOPI, INTERSOS, AJEDEC and OSV took part in this evaluation mission

⁴ https://www.sheltercluster.org/sites/default/files/docs/20181027_comparaison_abri_2017_2018_a3.pdf

⁵ <http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/countries/democratic-republic-of-the-congo>

External / Donor Relations

As of 20 November 2018

Special thanks to donors for UNHCR operations in DRC in 2018

United States of America (59.8 M) | CERF (3.9 M) | Sweden (2.5 M) | European Union (2.4 M) | Canada (1.2 M) | France (1.2 M) | Italy (0.92 M) | Australia for UNHCR (0.64 M) | UNIQLO (0.48 M) | International Olympic Committee (0.33 M) | UNAIDS (0.17 M) | Spain (0.12 M) | Miscellaneous private donors (0.24 M)

Special thanks to donors of regional or sub-regional funds 2018

United States of America (177.3 M) | Private donors Australia (11.1 M) | Denmark (8.8 M) | Sweden (8.5 M) | Private donors Germany (6.3 M) | Germany (5.1 M) | Australia (3.8 M) | Canada (3.3 M) | Norway (2.6 M) | Private donors Sweden (2.4 M) | Private donors Republic of Korea (2.3 M)

Thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2018

Sweden (98.2 M) | Private donors Spain (65.4 M) | United Kingdom (45.3 M) | Norway (42.5 M) | Netherlands (39.1 M) | Private donors Republic of Korea (32 M) | Japan (26.5 M) | Denmark (25.5 M) | Private donors Italy (16.8 M) | Private donors Japan (16.1 M) | Switzerland (15.8 M) | France (14 M) | Germany (13.7 M) | Private donors Sweden (13.2 M) | Italy (11.2 M)

Contacts

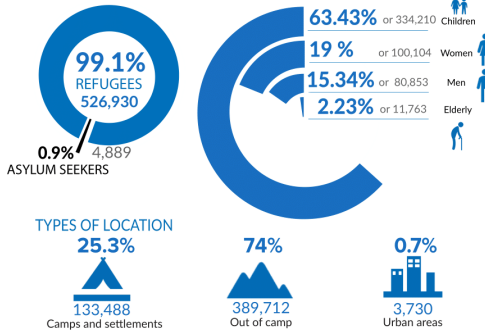
Andreas Kirchhof, Senior Regional External Relations Officer, – UNHCR Regional Representation Kinshasa, kirchhof@unhcr.org, Tel: +243 996 041 000, +243 817 009 484

Alexandra Stenbock-Fermor, Associate External Relations and Reporting Officer, – UNHCR Regional Representation Kinshasa, stenbock@unhcr.org, Tel: +243 996 041 000, +243 822 253 121

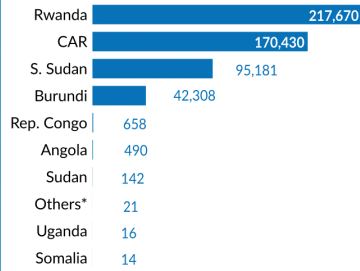
[DR Congo Emergency page](#) | [UNHCR DRC operation page](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

531,819

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS
KEY STATISTICS



REFUGEE POPULATION BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

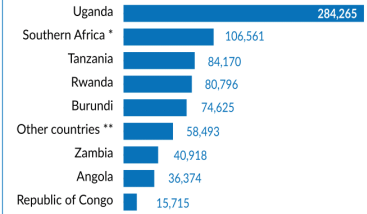


* Others include Ivory Coast, Eritrea, Syria, Liberia, Chad, etc.

REFUGEES FROM DRC IN AFRICA

781,917

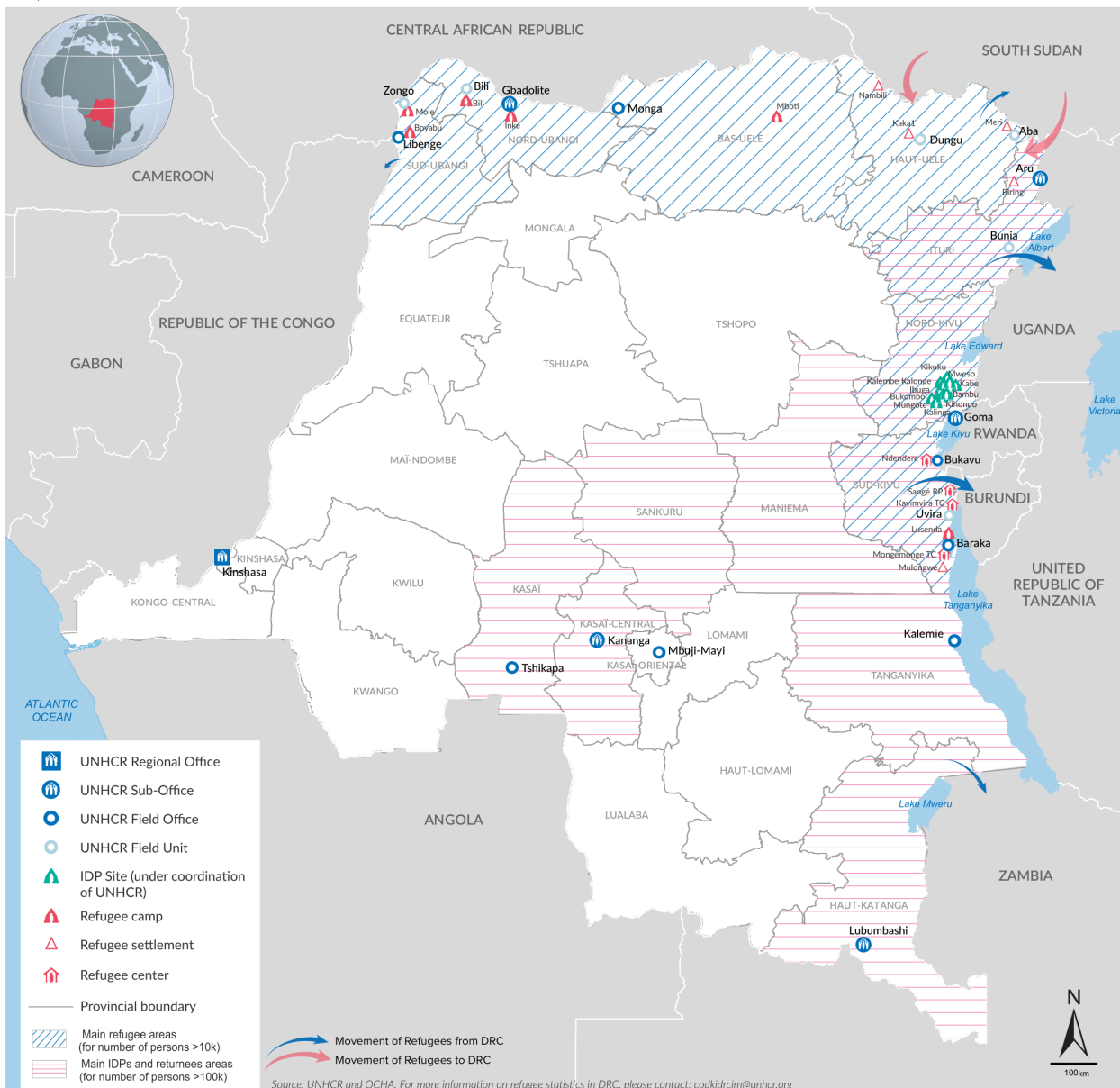
TOTAL DRC REFUGEE POPULATION



Source: UNHCR

* Southern Africa includes Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Madagascar, RSA and the Kingdom of Eswatini.

** Other countries include South Sudan, Kenya, Central African Republic and Chad



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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